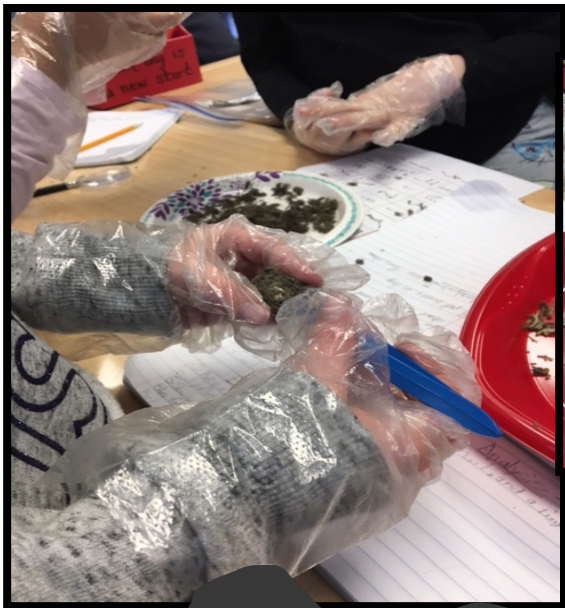


Johnson Elementary

On January 18th and 19th, 2018, fourth grade science teachers Deana DeFazio and Kim McCord of Johnson Elementary invited parents into their classroom to participate in a science experiment. The students were learning how an owl survives in its environment by eating small animals. The students and parents were given the hands-on opportunity to dissect owl pellets. Owls swallow their prey whole but do not digest the entire animal. What they do not digest (bones, hair, feathers, etc.), they regurgitate in the form of a pellet. The students and parents were given a pellet to dissect and a bone chart to identify the animal the owl had eaten. This experiment was part of a larger curriculum in which we incorporated food webs and food chains of predators and prey. This experiment created a memorable experience for both the students and parents who participated. It also increased their learning experience.



Article Submitted by Deana Defazio